

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/519,462

Examiner

Daniel J. Mills

Applicant(s)

LOPEZ

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment dated 4/18/2006 and interview on 6/9/2006.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5 and 7-11.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20060611.

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Amendment

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Jonathan Scherer on 6/9/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 has been amended to read:

--1. Furniture assembly device for assembling two parts of furniture together, said furniture assembly device comprising:

a U-shaped box including holes in its wings to fit setscrews from the box to one of the two parts of the furniture to be assembled and holes to insert rear ends of pivots to an inside of the box, which are secured to the other part of the two parts of the furniture to be attached,

a handle fitted inside the box moveable lengthways between an inoperative position and an operative position, the handle including holes to insert heads of the pivots, mounting holes to insert the pivots while the handle slides to the operative position, oval holes to insert setscrews and lower wedges that drive the heads of the

Art Unit: 3679

pivots as the handle moves to the operative position, bringing the two parts of the furniture, to be assembled together,

means for moving the handle on the inside of the box,

a lid to close the box, and additional closing means for securing the lid to the box in a stable manner to ensure the handle slides on the inside of the box without any kind of interference, the additional closing means on the lid consists of slots on one wing of the lid to set tabs on the box in a closed position and a threaded hole on another wing of the lid to insert a setscrew that secures the lid by pressing an end down on an end piece of the box.—

Claim 3 line 2, “U”-shaped ” has been changed to -- U-shaped --

Claim 5 has been amended to read:

-- 5. Device, according to Claim 1, wherein the additional closing means included in the box includes tabs to finish one of the ends of both wings and an end piece to close an existing opening between the wings and a center of the box close to the other end of the wings.--

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art, particularly Kruger (US 6,250,842) and Lasmarigues (GB 1,176,175) shows various furniture assembly devices. The prior art does not teach or suggest the combination of features claimed. For example, the prior art does not

Art Unit: 3679

suggest a furniture device with a U-shaped box with a handle fitted inside the box moveable lengthwise, means for moving the handle, a lid to close the box, and additional closing means on the lid which consist of slots on one wing of the lid to set tabs on the box in a closed position and a threaded hole on another wing of the lid to insert a setscrew that secures the lid by pressing an end down on an end piece of the box.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Mills whose telephone number is 571-272-8115. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DJM

DJM
6/11/2006


James R. Brittain
Primary Examiner